

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 65-139 are pending in the application, with 65, 85, and 105 being the independent claims. Claims 43-64 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above new claims and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

***Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103***

Claims 43, 44, 46, 48-50, 52-56, 59-60, 63, and 64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Life Technologies Catalogue (1995-96) in view of Stratagene Cloning Systems Catalog (Stratagene; 1993).

Claims 57 and 61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Life Technologies Catalogue (1995-96) in view of Stratagene Cloning Systems Catalog (Stratagene; 1993) as applied to claims 43, 44, 46, 48-50, 52-56, 59-60, 63, and 64 above and further in view of Lee (US Pat. 5,268,568).

In view of the cancellation of those claims, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is rendered moot.

***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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